

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 15-27 were pending. Claims 15-27 were rejected. In this response, no claim has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 15, 17-19, and 24 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 15-20 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,630,949 B1 of Yamagashi ("Yamagashi"). In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that, claims 15-27 include limitations that are not disclosed by Yamagashi.

Specifically, for example, independent claim 15 as amended includes, in response to detecting an imaging device coupled to a host system, the host system automatically detecting the type of the imaging device, identifying application software corresponding to the identified imaging device, and launching the application software to request transfer images previously captured from the imaging device to the host system. In response to the request, the application software automatically transfers the image information from the imaging device to the host system once it opens and successfully communicates with the imaging device. It is respectfully submitted that the above limitations are absent from Yamagashi.

Rather, Yamagashi is related to a docking station for an image pickup apparatus, such that a user can have a larger working area or view to operate the image pickup apparatus (see Figs. 1A and 1B of Yamagashi).

Particularly, when the image pickup apparatus is coupled to a processing system (e.g., the docking station), a program is downloaded from the image pickup apparatus to the processing system and executed from the processing system (see col. 6, lines 53 to 67 of

Yamagishi). In addition, the setting of the image pickup apparatus is also downloaded (see col. 7, lines 14 to 35 of Yamagishi). Further, a user operating the processing system (e.g., docking station) can operate the image pickup apparatus (via the interface of the docking station) to acquire images (see Figs 10, 10A-10B; col. 7, lines 44 to 56 and col. 8, lines 21 to 56 of Yamagishi).

Thus, Yamagishi fails to disclose the limitations set forth above, particularly, application software periodically attempts communicating with the imaging device for the purposes of transferring images that have been acquired by the imaging device. Specifically, there is no mention within Yamagishi to automatically detect coupling of the imaging device and transfer the previously captured image from the image device to the host system.

The purposes of Yamagishi is to operate an image capture device using portable PC with larger view finder once the image capture device is on dock (e.g., capturing an image using the PC via the docking station), while the present invention as claimed is related to automatically transferring images that were previously captured and stored within the imaging device to the host system once the host system detects the coupling of the imaging device.

Therefore, the purposes of Yamagishi and the present invention as claimed are significantly different and their approaches are significantly different. In order to anticipate a claim, each and every limitations of the claim must be taught by the reference. For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that Yamagishi fails to disclose each and every limitations of claim 15. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 15 is not anticipated by Yamagishi.

Similarly, independent claims 17 and 18 include limitations similar to those recited in claim 15. Thus, for the reasons similar to those set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 17-18 are not anticipated by Yamagishi.

Given that the rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims, at least for the reasons similar to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that the rest of the claims are not anticipated by Yamagishi.

In addition, with respect to claims 19 and 24, claims 19 and 24 include limitations of a port driver associated with an input port of the host system (e.g., USB or Firewire port) signaling the operating system of the host once it detects the imaging device is coupled to the input port of the host system. An image device driver corresponding to the type of the imaging device signals the port driver once it opens the imaging device successfully. The image device driver acquires the images previously captured and stored in the imaging device via the port driver and forwards the acquired images to the application software. It is respectfully submitted that the above limitations are absent from Yamagishi.

In the Office Action, it stated that sections of col. 5, line 17 to col. 6, line 67 and col. 26, lines 5-28 disclose such limitations (see 7/15/2005 Office Action, pages 5-6). Applicant respectfully disagrees. The cited sections of Yamagishi (e.g., col. 5, line 17 to col. 6, line 67 and col. 26, lines 5-28) merely describe how the PC operate the image pickup apparatus to capture the images. There is no mention of the limitations set forth above, particularly, the software architecture cited in claims 19 and 24. In fact, there is no mention of a port driver and/or an image device driver, as well as the manners they communicate with each other.

Again, in order to anticipate a claim, each and every limitations of a claim must be taught by the cited reference. It is respectfully submitted that the limitations set forth in claims 19 and 24 are absent from Yamagishi.

Therefore, in addition to those with respect to their respective independent claims, for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 19 and 24 are independently not anticipated by Yamagishi.

Claims 21, 22, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagashi, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,969,750 of Hsieh ("Hsieh"). Claims 21-22 and 26-27 depend from one of the above independent claims.

Although Hsieh discloses a term of USB port, it is respectfully submitted that Hsieh still fails to disclose or suggest the limitations set forth above with respect to their independent claims. Therefore, for the reasons similar to those described above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15-27 are patentable over the cited references.

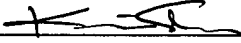
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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